03-118 Introduce: 7-28-03

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 2.76 of the Lincoln Municipal Code relating to the Personnel System by amending Section 2.76.153, Compensation, Merit Pay Plan, Shift Differential; Section 2.76.200 Compensation Plan, Temporary Assignment in a Higher Classification; Section 2.76.308 Sick Leave With Pay; and Section 2.76.475, Grievance Procedure, to reflect negotiated changes and changes applicable to employees not represented by a bargaining unit; and repealing Sections 2.76.153, 2.76.200, 2.76.380, and 2.76.475 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska:

Section 1. That Section 2.76.153 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended to read as follows:

2.76.153 Compensation Plan; Merit Pay Plan; Shift Differential.

Probationary and regular employees in pay ranges prefixed by "N" or "X" who are regularly assigned to second and third shifts shall be paid an additional twenty cents per hour for second shift and thirty cents per hour for third shift. The differential pay per hour shall be included as an addition to their current hourly rate. To be entitled to second shift differential pay, an employee must work a majority of his regularly scheduled shift hours between 5:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. To be entitled to third shift differential pay, an employee must work a majority of his regularly scheduled shift hours between 11:59 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. Current hourly rate shall mean the hourly rate of pay which is applicable to the employee's regularly

assigned job classification; provided, however, that if an employee is entitled to out-of-class pay, the employee's current hourly rate shall be the applicable out-of-class hourly rate of pay.

Probationary and regular employees in pay ranges prefixed by "C" who are regularly assigned to second and third shifts shall be paid an additional thirty cents per hour for second shift and thirty-five cents per hour for third shift. The differential pay per hour shall be included as an addition to their current hourly rate. To be entitled to second shift differential pay, an employee must work a majority of his regularly scheduled shift hours between 5:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. To be entitled to third shift differential pay, an employee must work a majority of his regularly scheduled shift hours between 11:59 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Employees who are entitled to shift differential pay shall also receive the shift differential pay in addition to their current hourly rate for paid leaves of absence such as vacation, sick leave, holiday pay, and funeral leave. For the purpose of computing overtime pay, an employee's "regular hourly rate", as defined by the Fair Labor Standards Act, shall include the additional twenty, or thirty, or thirty-five cents per hour shift differential.

Section 2. That Section 2.76.200 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended to read as follows:

2.76.200 Compensation Plan; Temporary Assignment in a Higher Classification.

(a) Any regular employee in a pay range prefixed by "C" or "E" who is assigned temporarily assigned to work in a permanent budgeted position in a class with a higher maximum salary then the maximum salary of such employee's regularly assigned class and who actually works a minimum of three or less consecutive work days in the higher classification in any bi-weekly pay period shall be compensated at the minimum rate

established for the higher class or at the employee's current rate of pay, whichever is greater, for each consecutive eight hours or more of work performed during any regularly assigned work shift served in the higher class. If an employee works more than the three day minimum consecutive work days, that employee shall be compensated for all the time worked in the higher classification. For the purpose of determining temporary assignment, each payroll period shall be considered separately. In the event that the minimum salary of the higher classification is not at least five percent above the employee's current salary, said employee working in a higher classification for the required time shall be paid for that temporary assignment at the rate of five percent above his current base salary. The employee who is temporarily assigned to serve, and actually does serve in a higher level position, must have served a thirty-day orientation period for the job in the higher level position prior to the assumption of that higher level position, and be fully qualified to perform and must actually perform the full range of duties of the higher level position in order to be eligible for the additional compensation herein provided. Such employee will be compensated at the minimum rate established for the higher class, or at the rate of five percent above the employee's current rate of pay, whichever is greater.

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(b) Any regular employee, in a pay range prefixed by "X" who is temporarily assigned to work in a permanent position in a class with a higher maximum salary than the maximum salary of such employee's regularly assigned class and who actually works a minimum of eight or more consecutive hours in the higher classification shall receive at least a step increase in pay for the original eight consecutive hours worked plus any additional consecutive hours worked in the higher classification. The employee who is temporarily

assigned to serve, and actually does serve in a higher level position, must be fully qualified to perform the full range of duties of the higher level position, even though he may not actually perform the full range of duties during the time he is temporarily assigned to the higher classification. In the event an employee is temporarily assigned to a higher classification and requests and receives approval for paid leave, such paid leave shall be compensated at the employee's rate of pay prior to being temporarily assigned to the higher classification.

- or her normal job duties due to special or unusual circumstances, a department head or his or her designated representative may appoint such employee to serve as a project leader. The appointment shall last no longer than the length of the project, or for one year, whichever is less. If an employee with a pay range prefixed by "A", "C", "E" or "M" is appointed as a project leader they shall receive an increase in compensation of up to ten percent while in the status of project leader. The appointment must be approved by the Director in whatever form he or she may require.
- (d) Crew Leader. A department head or his or her designated representative may appoint any employee to serve as crew leader. The appointment shall be for the purpose of performing duties outside of his or her normal job duties as they relate to a special project assignment or performing duties outside of his or her normal job duties for the purpose of performing work that needs to be done to accomplish the daily work of the department or division. The appointment may last up to one year and may be extended, with review by the Director, due to special circumstances. If an employee with a pay range prefixed by an "X"

or "N" is appointed as a new crew leader, they shall receive an increase in compensation of one step above their current rate of pay, or three and one-half percent if at step J. The appointment must be approved by the Director in whatever form he or she may require.

Section 3. That Section 2.76.380 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended to read as follows:

2.76.380 Sick Leave with Pay.

Subsections (a) through (f) shall apply to employees not represented by a bargaining unit.

- (a) Amount. Sick leave shall be earned by each employee at the factored hourly equivalent of eight hours for each full month of service or twelve hours for each full month of service for an employee with a pay range prefixed by "M" who works a fifty-six hour work week. Earnings shall be computed only for those hours when an eligible employee is in a pay status, excluding overtime.
- (b) When taken. Sick leave will be paid only when an employee is unable to perform work duties due to actual personal illness, noncompensable bodily injury, pregnancy, or disease, exposure to contagious disease under circumstances in which the health of other employees or the public would be endangered by attendance on duty, or to keep a medical or dental appointment and for no other reason. A sick leave pay account will be established and funds appropriated for that reason only. Sick leave with pay is intended to be paid on account of sickness rather than a continuation of salary.

Sick leave must be earned before it can be granted, and advancing sick leave is prohibited. An employee may utilize no more than his accrued balance of sick leave. When

an employee finds it necessary to be absent for any of the reasons specified herein, the employee shall cause the facts to be reported to his department head in accordance with departmental rules and regulations.

Sick leave shall be earned, but not be granted, during the probationary period occurring after original appointment. An employee must keep his department head informed of his condition. This shall be on a daily basis unless waived by the department head or designated representative. An employee may be required by the Personnel Director to submit a medical certificate for any absence. Failure to fulfill these requirements may result in denial of sick leave. No refund of vacation time shall be allowed due to illness incurred while on vacation leave. Sick leave shall not accrue during any period of leave of absence without pay.

- (c) Accumulated sick leave. Unused sick leave may be accumulated to a total of 1,920 hours for an employee with a pay range prefixed by "E" or "M"; or 2,880 hours for an employee with a pay range prefixed by "M" who works a fifty-six hour work week.
- The accumulation of unused sick leave is unlimited for an employee with a pay range prefixed by "A", "C", "N" or "X".
- (d) Unused sick leave. Upon retirement, death or reduction in force, an employee with a pay range prefixed by "E" or "M", or the employee's beneficiary, shall be paid one-half of his accumulated sick leave up to a maximum of 620 hours. An employee with a pay range prefixed by "M" who works a fifty-six hour work week shall be paid one-half of his accumulated sick leave up to a maximum of 930 hours. The rate of payment shall be based upon the employee's regular hourly rate of pay at the time the employee retires, is laid off, or at the time of the employee's death.

Upon retirement, death or reduction in force, an employee with a pay range prefixed by "A", "C", "N" or "X", or the employee's beneficiary, shall be paid one-fourth of his accumulated sick leave. The rate of payment shall be based upon the employee's regular hourly rate of pay at the time the employee retires, is laid off, or at the time of the employee's death.

Upon retirement, death or reduction in force, an employee with a pay range prefixed by "A" or "C", or the employee's beneficiary, shall be paid one-half of his accumulated sick leave up to a maximum of 650 hours. The rate of payment shall be based upon the employee's regular hourly rate of pay at the time the employee retires, is laid off, or at the time of the employee's death.

- (e) An employee with a pay range prefixed by "E", "M", "A", or "C" may be granted time off for a maximum of forty hours in each calendar year for illness in the employee's immediate family. An employee with a pay range prefixed by "M" who works a fifty-six hour work week may be granted time off for a maximum of sixty hours in each calendar year for illness in the employee's immediate family. Immediate family will also include any other family member, whether it be by blood, marriage, legal adoption, or foster children, residing in the household. Such time off will be deducted from the employee's accumulated sick leave. Upon written request from an employee in the above-referenced pay ranges, the Personnel Director may waive the forty or sixty hour limit after reviewing the individual circumstances in support of the request.
- (f) An employee with a pay range prefixed by "N" or "X" may be granted time off for a maximum of forty hours in each calendar year for illness in the employee's immediate

family. For purposes of this subsection (f), the term immediate family shall include the employee's mother, father, sister, brother, husband, wife, child, foster child, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepmother, stepfather, stepchild, stepgrandchild, grandparent, grandchild, and the grandparent of the employee's spouse, or any other relative residing in the household. Such time off will be deducted from the employee's accumulated sick leave. Upon written request from an employee in the above-referenced pay ranges, the Personnel Director may waive the forty hour limit after reviewing the individual circumstances in support of the request.

Section 4. That Section 2.76.475 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended to read as follows:

2.76.475 Grievance Procedure.

employees an opportunity to discuss their grievances with the city in order to find mutually satisfactory solutions as rapidly as possible. The grievance procedure set forth herein is designed to preserve harmony and friendly relations between the city and its employees. Furthermore, the grievance procedure is to provide a just and equitable method for the resolution of grievances without discrimination, coercion, restraint, or reprisal against any employee who may submit or be involved in a grievance. The grievance procedure shall not be used to change any provisions of the personnel code, municipal ordinances, or filed for the purpose of getting an established policy, standard, or procedure changed. Employees represented by collective bargaining units or agents shall be required to use the grievance procedures provided for under the terms of their agreement.

(b) Definition. A grievance shall mean any disagreement concerning the interpretation or application of the specific and expressed provisions or terms of the City Personnel Code or applicable municipal ordinances relating to compensation, working conditions, or fringe benefits but disagreements relating to the substantive terms or provisions of those ordinances or the personnel code shall not be considered grievances.

- (c) Form. In reducing a grievance to writing, the following information must be stated with reasonable clearness: The exact nature of the grievance, the act or acts of commission or omission, the exact date of the act or acts of commission or omission, the identity of the party or parties who claim to be aggrieved, the identity of the party or parties alleged to have caused the grievance, the specific provisions of the City Personnel Code or municipal ordinances that are alleged to have been violated, and the remedy which is sought.
- (d) Employee procedure. The city urges all employees to raise any matters of disagreement or any suggestions with their immediate supervisor in order to informally resolve as many matters as possible. In the event that satisfactory settlement is not or cannot be reached under such a procedure, grievances shall be processed in the following manner:
- (1) Step One. Any regular employee having a grievance, or the employee's designated representative, shall first present the grievance orally to the employee's division supervisor or the supervisor's designated representative within five fifteen working days after its occurrence. The supervisor shall then attempt to adjust the matter and shall respond to the employee or designated representative within five fifteen working days after the presentation of the grievance.

(2) Step Two. If satisfactory settlement is not reached under Step One, the grievance shall be presented by the employee or the employee's designated representative to the employee's department head in writing within five fifteen working days after the expiration of the time limit set forth in Step One above. The department head shall issue a written decision to the employee or the employee's designated representative within five fifteen working days from the date of receipt of the grievance.

(3) Step Three. If satisfactory settlement is not reached under Step Two, the employee or the employee's designated representative shall resubmit the grievance described in Step One above in writing within five fifteen working days of receipt of the response from the department head as outlined under Step Two above to the Personnel Director or the director's designated representative for submission to the Personnel Board. The Personnel Board shall hold a hearing with the employee or the employee's designated representative within twenty-five working days, or as soon as reasonably possible, after the receipt of the grievance in an attempt to settle the grievance. The Personnel Board shall transmit a written answer to the employee or the employee's designated representative within five fifteen working days after such meeting. The decision of the Personnel Board shall be final and binding upon the appointing authority.

Section 5. That Sections 2.76.153, 2.76.200, 2.76.380, and 2.76.475 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing be and the same are hereby repealed.

1	Section 6. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after		
2	its passage and publication according to lav	w.	
		Introduced by:	
	Approved as to Form & Legality:		
	City Attorney		
		Approved this day of	, 2003:
		Mayor	